

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An exhaust emission control apparatus for an internal combustion engine is capable of suppressing a nasty smell due to the hydrogen sulfide generated upon recovery from SO_x poisoning. The exhaust emission control apparatus includes an NO_x storage-reduction catalyst, a reducing agent supplying section for supplying a reducing agent to the NO_x catalyst, an SO_x poisoning recovering section for recovering the NO_x catalyst from its SO_x poisoning by varying the oxygen concentration of an exhaust by means of reducing agent supplying section, a hydrogen sulfide concentration estimating section for estimating a concentration of hydrogen sulfide in an atmosphere into which the hydrogen sulfide is discharged, and an estimated concentration derived reducing agent supply amount control section for decreasing an amount of reducing agent to be supplied in accordance with the increasing concentration of hydrogen sulfide estimated by the hydrogen sulfide concentration estimating section while the NO_x catalyst is recovered from the sulfur oxide poisoning.